

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 10885 121014Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 INR-10 NSCE-00 SSO-00
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O 111352Z JUL 78 ZDK RPTD MISSING
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7979
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T LONDON 10885

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, PEPR, PGOV, EG, IS, US, UK
SUBJECT: ARRANGEMENTS FOR LONDON MIDDLE EAST TALKS

REF: CAIRO 16687

1. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR ANWAR HAS BEEN IN DAILY CONTACT WITH US ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE LONDON MIDDLE EAST TALKS. HIS QUESTIONS REFLECT THE SITUATION DESCRIBED IN REFTEL. ANWAR IS GETTING VERY LITTLE GUIDANCE FROM CAIRO ON THE ARRANGEMENTS, AND IS OF COURSE CONCERNED ABOUT THE SECURITY ASPECTS. HE HAS JUST INFORMED US THAT THE EGYPTIAN ADVANCE TEAM, COMPOSED OF GENERAL ABDUL WAHAB NOFEL AND MR. SEIF AL-DIN ABBAS, ARE ARRIVING JULY 12, AND WE HAVE OBTAINED RESERVATIONS FOR THEM AT THE CHURCHILL. ANWAR DOES NOT KNOW HOW MANY EGYPTIANS ARE COMING, BUT HE HAS WARNED US THAT THEY WILL NEED MORE THAN 20 ROOMS. WHEN ASKED HOW MANY, HE TENTATIVELY GUESSED FIVE, AND WE ARE WORKING ON THIS PROBLEM AS WELL AS THE INCREASES IN THE THE NUMBER OF US MEMBERS OF THE PARTY. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE APPRECIATE EMBASSY CAIRO'S EFFORTS IN REFTEL TO GET THE EGYPTIANS TO DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF ROOMS NEEDED. WE MAY HAVE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 LONDON 10885 121014Z

TO END UP BY DOUBLING UP SOME.

2. IN SEPARATE SY CHANNEL WE HAVE REPORTED THAT, ACCORDING TO ANWAR, EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT IS RELUCTANT TO HAVE ITS SECURITY AGENTS PARTICIPATE IN MEETING WITH ISRAELI SECURITY AGENTS, AND THAT EGYPTIANS WANT THEIR AGENTS TO BE ARMED. EGYPTIANS ARE HAVING

THEIR MEETING TODAY WITH SCOTLAND YARD OFFICIALS
WHO PLAN ON (A) TURNING DOWN THIS REQUEST AND (B)
DESCRIBING MERITS OF EGYPTIANS PARTICIPATING IN A
GENERAL SECURITY MEETING.

3. IN MEETING WITH US YESTERDAY ISRAELI MINISTER
BIRAN APPEARED TO BE QUITE RELAXED. WE ASKED HIM TO
LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF THEY WOULD BE
ABLE TO RELEASE ANY OF THE 15 ROOMS WE HAVE RESERVED
FOR THEM. BIRAN'S ONLY CONCERN SEEMED TO BE THE
UBIQUITOUS ISRAELI PRESS.

BREWSTER

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NNN

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